(b) if so, the reasons for not making it applicable for non-executive cadres;

(c) the number of employees of non-executive cadre have retired w.e.f. 01.4.1990 to this date in each region; and

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce such a scheme for non-executive cadres also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). The scheme for the non-executive cadres is being introduced w.e.f. November, 1995 as the recognised unions did not agree to the scheme earlier.

(c)	CRBC	ERBC	MRBC	NRBC	SRBC	WRBC	HQRS (including Delhi)	Total
	96	386	34	20	98	1,107	261	2,002

ONGC

*100. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the profit of the ONGC have been falling during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the ONGC now propose to enter into a contract with an American consultancy firm for its retransformation;

(d) if so, the reasons for entering into contract with American firm;

(e) the terms and conditions laid down for the contracts; and

(f) whether the ONGC propose to disinvest/adopt its own policy to make it profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). During the period 1993-94 to 1995-96, there was a dip in profits of ONGC during 1994-95 due to higher depreciation charges on account of commissioning of major projects and due to exchange loss on external commercial borrowings.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. ONGC has placed Letter of ıtent on M/s. Mckinsey and Co., New York, a leading ıternational management consultant, for carrying out ıork relating to its organisational transformation.

(e) The detailed terms and conditions of the contract ıave not been finalised.

(f) ONGC is already a profitable organisation and vill strive to further improve its profitability.

Agricultural Science Centres

784. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Planning Commission has received any proposal from the Agriculture Ministry regarding closing of some Agricultural Science Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof place-wise;

(c) the decision taken by the Central Goverment in this regard;

(d) the effective steps taken by the Central Government to provide financial aid to these centres and save them from closure; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). Planning Commission has not received any proposal from the Agriculture Ministry regarding closing of some agricultural Science Centres (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) - (KVKs) in the country.

(c) to (e). As per existing pattern of assistance for Agricultural Science Centres (Krishi Vigyan Kendras), Government of India provides 100% financial assistance to all KVKs for a period of first five years and 75% for the next five years. Thereafter the host institutions have to manage their own financial resources for running the KVKs. It has also been decided in 1994 that KVKs which are to be set up beyond 261 number will get 100% assistance from the Government of India through ICAR for the first five years and 60% for the next five years. Thereafter the host institutions are required to manage KVKs from their own resources. In order to avoid hardship to any KVK, recently it has been decided that till a final decision is taken with regard to implementation of this scheme in the Ninth Five Year Plan, all KVKs will continue to get funding on the existing basis.

Infrastructural Facilities

785. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for the development of